

December 10, 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY
IN ADVENT:

PEACE



Trinity Presbyterian Church

420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062

www.trinitypressc.org ♦ trinitysc@sbcglobal.net

(831) 423-8995

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday in Advent

10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Processional

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Greet one another with the Peace of Christ

“The Peace of Christ be with you.”

“And also with you.”

Preparation for Worship

Jean-Paul Sartre

Every word has consequences. Every silence, too.

Prelude

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

Mark Hayes

Introit

Dona Nobis Pacem

Call to Worship

Based on Isaiah 64:1-2

One: This is the season of holy waiting.

All: We watch for the day when our warfare will be ended.

One: We wait for the One who can bring comfort and speak peace.

All: We wait while the night begins to glow with the light of day.

All: Come let us walk in the light of God!

*Hymn of Praise #13

Prepare Ye the Way

(music at end of bulletin)

Our Advent Wreath

Quinn, Paul, and Ed Sams

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord.” A choir sings in the silence, “Come, Emmanuel.”

People: Every valley shall be filled. Every heart shall be made whole, for peace is stronger than turmoil, and love is louder than hate.

Leader: As we light our second Advent candle, we pray for the holy peace of God.

People: **Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Peace.**

Light an Advent Candle

Becki Slagle Mayo

*Advent is a time of hope, of waiting for the light
To lead us to the promised One to break the dark of night.*

Light a candle, our Messiah will come.

Light a candle, our Messiah will come.

Advent is a time of peace, the ancient prophets tell.

A King will be born in Bethlehem, our Lord, Emmanuel.

Light a candle, our Messiah will come.

Light a candle, our Messiah will come

Call to Confession

One: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

All: "Prepare the way of the Lord," your prophet says to us. Forgive us when we have failed to prepare your way. Forgive us when we have stood in your way, instead: when we let the challenging words of your prophets roll off our lives, rather than let them spark change; when we walk around a neighbor in need, rather than encounter a chance for compassion. Forgive us, O Lord, and grant us assurance that the glory of your coming does not depend upon the righteousness of your followers. Forgive us, O Lord, and free us to try again.

Take time to offer silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: **May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.**

***Gloria #23** (refrain only)

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo

Anthem

Zechariah's Song

David Ashley White

*Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free,
And raises up new hope for us, a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.*

*With promised mercy God will still the covenant recall,
The oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all;
That we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
In holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.*

*My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
To tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease
To drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.*

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:1-8 NRSV

N.T. Page 34

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

A Voice Crying in the Wilderness

Larry Vilaro

***Hymn** (*music at end of bulletin*)

My Soul Cries Out

Prayers of the People

*After each petition please say, "God of Life and Hope"
and all respond, "Hear our Prayer."*

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

***Doxology #591**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

All: Loving God, you powerfully proclaim through your prophet John the need for us to repent of our sins and to prepare the way of the Lord. We place these offerings upon your altar with the knowledge that they will support many ministries that proclaim your Good News and lead people on your path. By offering you these generous gifts, we prepare ourselves to be led along your path of grace and love. We pray with your guiding presence. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #8**

Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

(music at end of bulletin)

***Charge**

Go now: wait and work for the coming of the day of God. In the wild places prepare a straight path for the Lord. Lead lives of holiness and godliness, strive to be found at peace, and speak freely of the Lord's comfort and promise.

***Amen**

***Postlude**

Toccata

Robert W. Thygerson

**We invite all to stand in body or in spirit.*

THANK YOU

Pastor: Larry Vilaro
Music Director: Nicki Kerns
Lector: Mayre Vincent
Greeter: Charlie May
Usher: Pete Halper
Coffee: Elizabeth and George Bunch

13

Prepare the Way

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

Frans Mikael Franzen (1771–1847)

Adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980; alt. 1989

Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697

Arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930



1. Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, Your Christ is draw - ing near!
2. Christ brings God's rule, O Zi - on; He comes from heaven a - bove.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; Your Sav - ior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley A lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, And jus - tice, truth, and love.
 And tid - ings of sal - va - tion Pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, For grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, Their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



Refrain

ADVENT

O blest is Christ that came In God's most ho - ly name.

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system is a vocal line on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The second system is a piano accompaniment, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a grand staff brace on the left. The accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands, supporting the vocal melody. The lyrics are placed below the vocal staff.

♩ = 63-69

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

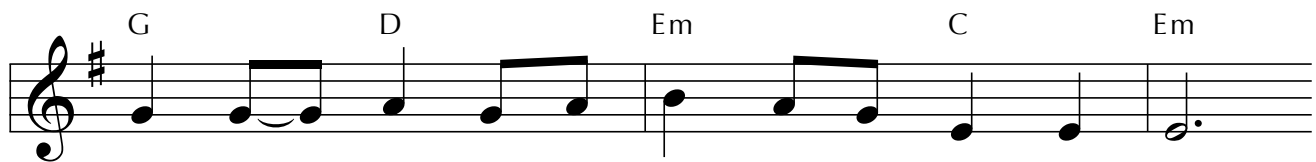
Canticle of the Turning



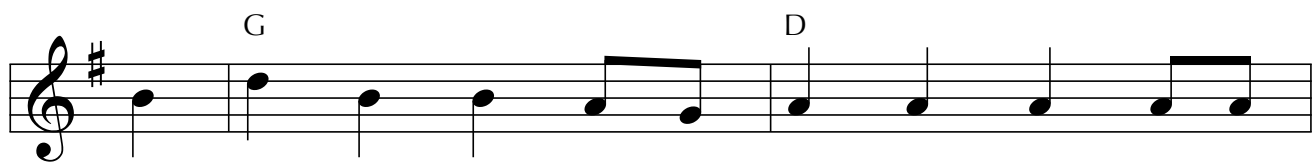
1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO LM

Georg Weissel, 1642
Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855

Thomas Williams, 1789
Harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates, Be - hold, the
 2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 3. Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide My heart to

King of glo - ry waits; The King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part From earth - ly use for
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me Thy in - ner

draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here!
 heaven's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer, and love, and joy.
 pres - ence feel; Thy grace and love in me re - veal.



December 14 and 21 at 5:30pm
Advent Study Dinners: Honor God's Diversity

This study takes a deep dive into what it means to honor diversity, understand inequities in the world, and to take radical steps to both understand, respect, and include the marginalized.

Each session will begin with a potluck dinner in the Fireside Room.

Please fill out the form below to let us know if you are planning to attend the dinner on **December 14**, and what you would like to bring to share.

Yes, I/We will be attending the Advent Gathering Thursday,
December 14, @ 5:30pm.

Name _____

I/we would like to bring (*please circle one*)

main dish casserole (no soup) salad dessert

Please place in the offering plate

Announcements

Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church!

We look forward to getting to know you better. Please fill out a visitor welcome card found in the pew pockets in front of you. After worship, please join us for coffee, tea, and juice in the Magnolia Courtyard. We are glad you are here!

Christmas Staff Gifts

Every year at Christmas, we thank Trinity's staff members with a monetary gift. This Sunday, the Deacons are accepting donations for these gifts. Place your check or cash in the envelope found in the bulletin and place in the offering plate. Be sure to write "Staff Gift" in the memo line.

Give the Gift of Life

The annual Presbyterian Giving Catalog offers an opportunity to honor people in your life with simple holiday gifts that provide food, clean water, and means of livelihood for people in other parts of the world. This year's Catalog is available in a display in the narthex and is also accessible online thru our weekly newsletter. *It's easy to make a big difference!*

Advent Study, Thursdays in December, 5:30pm

Please see the tear off sheet on page 12 for more information and to sign up.

Christmas Caroling Today After Lunch

We will go Christmas caroling following worship today, at 1PM, after a light lunch.

Book Club, December 11, 2pm, Fireside Room

The books being discussed are "A Christmas Carol" as well as "The Life and Times of Bob Cratchit."

Blood Drive in our Fellowship Hall, Friday, December 22

Trinity Presbyterian Church is holding its first blood drive on Friday, December 22, in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please make your appointment at www.redcrossblood.org. The blood drive can be found by zip code (95062) or by sponsor code (trinitypressc). Please allow at least one hour for the entire donation process. Identification is required. For information about eligibility please go to www.redcrossblood.org/eligibility. Free long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt for all presenting donors. Please consider donating blood and keeping the blood supply strong during the holiday season.

Christmas Time at Trinity

Join us for one or all of our many holiday services in December.

December 10: Christmas Caroling after worship service

December 17: Cantata during worship

December 20: Longest Night Worship Service, 6pm

December 24: Morning Worship at 10:30am

December 24: Lessons and Carols, 6pm